

1        CLAIMS:

2            1.     A semiconductor processing method, comprising:  
3            forming a conductive copper-containing material over a  
4            semiconductive substrate;

5            forming a second material proximate the conductive material; and  
6            forming a barrier layer between the conductive material and the  
7            second material, the barrier layer comprising a compound having silicon  
8            chemically bonded to both nitrogen and an organic material.

9  
10           2.     The method of claim 1 wherein conductive material consists  
11           essentially of copper.

12  
13           3.     The method of claim 1 wherein the barrier layer is against  
14           the conductive material.

15  
16           4.     The method of claim 1 wherein the barrier layer is against  
17           both the conductive material and the second material.

18  
19           5.     The method of claim 1 wherein the second material is an  
20           insulative material.

21  
22           6.     The method of claim 1 wherein the second material  
23           comprises silicon dioxide.

1           7.    The method of claim 1 wherein the organic material  
2 comprises a methyl group.

3  
4           8.    The method of claim 1 wherein the organic material is a  
5 methyl group.

6  
7           9.    The method of claim 1 wherein the nitrogen that is bonded  
8 to the silicon is not bonded to carbon.

9  
10          10.   The method of claim 1 wherein the compound consists  
11 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being greater than 0 and no greater  
12 than 4.

13  
14          11.   The method of claim 1 wherein the compound consists  
15 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
16  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
17 than 4, and wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

1           12. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound consists  
2 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
3  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
4 than 4, wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4, and  
5 wherein the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  is present in the barrier layer to a  
6 concentration of from greater than 0% to about 20% (mole percent).

7  
8           13. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound consists  
9 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , and wherein the forming occurs in a  
10 reaction chamber and comprises combining  $\text{CH}_3\text{SiH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  in the  
11 chamber to deposit the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  over the substrate, wherein x is  
12 greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

13  
14           14. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound consists  
15 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , and wherein the forming occurs in a  
16 reaction chamber and comprises combining  $\text{CH}_3\text{SiH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  in the  
17 chamber with a plasma to deposit the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  over the substrate,  
18 wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.  
19  
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1           15. The method of claim 1 wherein the compound consists  
2 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
3  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , and wherein the forming occurs in a  
4 reaction chamber and comprises combining  $\text{CH}_3\text{SiH}_3$ ,  $\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  in  
5 the chamber with a plasma to deposit the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  over the  
6 substrate, wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4, and  
7 wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

8  
9           16. A semiconductor processing method, comprising:  
10 providing a semiconductive substrate;  
11 forming a first material over the semiconductive substrate;  
12 forming a barrier layer proximate the first material, the barrier  
13 layer comprising a compound having silicon chemically bonded to both  
14 nitrogen and an organic material; and  
15 forming a second material separated from the first material by the  
16 barrier layer.

17  
18           17. The method of claim 16 wherein the barrier layer is formed  
19 against the first material.

20  
21           18. The method of claim 16 wherein the barrier layer is formed  
22 against the first material, and wherein the second material is formed  
23 against the barrier layer.

1            19. The method of claim 16 wherein at least one of the first  
2 and second materials is conductive.

3  
4            20. The method of claim 16 wherein at least one of the first  
5 and second materials is insulative.

6  
7            21. The method of claim 16 wherein the nitrogen that is bonded  
8 to the silicon is not bonded to carbon.

9  
10           22. The method of claim 16 wherein the compound consists  
11 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being greater than 0 and no greater  
12 than about 4.

13  
14           23. The method of claim 16 wherein the compound consists  
15 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
16  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
17 than about 4, and wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than  
18 about 4.

1           24. A semiconductor processing method, comprising:  
2           providing a semiconductive substrate; and  
3           forming a layer over the semiconductive substrate, the layer  
4           comprising a compound having silicon chemically bonded to both  
5           nitrogen and an organic material.

6  
7           25. The method of claim 24 wherein the organic material  
8           comprises a methyl group.

9  
10          26. The method of claim 24 wherein the organic material is a  
11          methyl group.

12  
13          27. The method of claim 24 wherein the nitrogen that is bonded  
14          to the silicon is not bonded to carbon.

15  
16          28. The method of claim 24 wherein the compound consists  
17          essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being greater than 0 and no greater  
18          than about 4.

19  
20          29. The method of claim 24 wherein the compound consists  
21          essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the layer consists essentially of  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$   
22          and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than  
23          about 4, and wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

1           30. The method of claim 24 wherein the compound consists  
2 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the layer consists essentially of  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$   
3 and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , and wherein the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  is present in the  
4 layer to a concentration of from greater than 0% to about 20% (mole  
5 percent), wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4, and  
6 wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

7  
8           31. The method of claim 24 wherein the compound consists  
9 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
10 than about 4, and wherein the forming occurs in a reaction chamber  
11 and comprises combining  $\text{CH}_3\text{SiH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  in the chamber to deposit  
12 the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  over the substrate.

13  
14           32. The method of claim 24 wherein the compound consists  
15 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
16 than about 4, and wherein the forming occurs in a reaction chamber  
17 and comprises combining  $\text{CH}_3\text{SiH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  in the chamber with a  
18 plasma to deposit the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  over the substrate.

1           33. The method of claim 24 wherein the compound consists  
2 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the layer consists essentially of  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$   
3 and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than  
4 about 4, and wherein the forming occurs in a reaction chamber and  
5 comprises combining  $\text{CH}_3\text{SiH}_3$ ,  $\text{SiH}_4$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  in the chamber with a  
6 plasma to deposit the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  over the substrate.

7  
8           34. A composition of matter comprising silicon chemically  
9 bonded to both nitrogen and carbon, and wherein the nitrogen is not  
10 bonded to carbon.

11  
12           35. The composition of claim 34 wherein the carbon is part of  
13 a hydrocarbon.

14  
15           36. A composition of matter comprising silicon chemically  
16 bonded to both nitrogen and an organic material, and wherein the  
17 nitrogen is not bonded to carbon.

18  
19           37. The composition of claim 36 wherein the silicon is bonded  
20 to a carbon of the organic material.

21  
22           38. The composition of claim 36 wherein the organic material  
23 comprises a methyl group.



1           39. The composition of claim 36 wherein the organic material  
2 is a methyl group.

3  
4           40. The composition of claim 36 wherein the organic material  
5 is a hydrocarbon.

6  
7           41. The composition of claim 36 wherein the silicon, nitrogen  
8 and organic material together comprise  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being  
9 greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

10  
11           42. A semiconductor device, comprising:  
12 a semiconductive substrate; and  
13 a layer over the semiconductive substrate, the layer comprising a  
14 compound having silicon chemically bonded to both nitrogen and an  
15 organic material.

16  
17           43. The device of claim 42 wherein the nitrogen is not bonded  
18 to carbon.

19  
20           44. The device of claim 42 wherein the organic material  
21 comprises a methyl group.

1           45. The device of claim 42 wherein the organic material is a  
2 methyl group.

3  
4           46. The device of claim 42 wherein the organic material is a  
5 hydrocarbon.

6  
7           47. The device of claim 42 wherein the compound consists  
8 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being greater than 0 and no greater  
9 than about 4.

10  
11           48. The device of claim 42 wherein the compound consists  
12 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the layer consists essentially of  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$   
13 and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than  
14 about 4, and wherein y is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4.

15  
16           49. The device of claim 42 wherein the compound consists  
17 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the layer consists essentially of  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$   
18 and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  is present in the layer  
19 to a concentration of from greater than 0% to about 50% (mole  
20 percent), wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than about 4, and  
21 wherein y is no greater than about 4.

22

23

1           50.    A semiconductor device, comprising:  
2           a semiconductive substrate;  
3           a first material over the semiconductive substrate;  
4           a second material proximate the first material; and  
5           a barrier layer separating the second material from the first  
6 material, the barrier layer comprising a compound having silicon  
7 chemically bonded to both nitrogen and an organic material.

8  
9           51.    The device of claim 50 wherein at least one of the first and  
10 second materials is conductive.

11  
12           52.    The device of claim 50 wherein the nitrogen is not bonded  
13 to carbon.

14  
15           53.    The device of claim 50 wherein at least one of the first and  
16 second materials is insulative.

17  
18           54.    The device of claim 50 wherein the compound consists  
19 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being greater than 0 and no greater  
20 than about 4.

1            55. The device of claim 50 wherein the compound consists  
2 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
3  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
4 than about 4, and wherein y is no greater than about 4.

5  
6            56. A semiconductor device, comprising:

7            a semiconductive substrate;

8            a conductive copper-containing material over the semiconductive  
9 substrate;

10           a second material proximate the conductive material; and

11           a barrier layer between the conductive material and the second  
12 material, the barrier layer comprising a compound having silicon  
13 chemically bonded to both nitrogen and an organic material.

14  
15           57. The device of claim 56 wherein the barrier layer is against  
16 the conductive material.

17  
18           58. The device of claim 56 wherein the nitrogen is not bonded  
19 to carbon.

20  
21           59. The device of claim 56 wherein the barrier layer is against  
22 both the conductive material and the second material.

23

1           60. The device of claim 56 wherein the second material is an  
2 insulative material.

3  
4           61. The device of claim 56 wherein the second material  
5 comprises silicon dioxide.

6  
7           62. The device of claim 56 wherein the organic material  
8 comprises a methyl group.

9  
10          63. The device of claim 56 wherein the organic material is a  
11 methyl group.

12  
13          64. The device of claim 56 wherein the compound consists  
14 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , with x being greater than 0 and no greater  
15 than about 4.

16  
17          65. The device of claim 56 wherein the compound consists  
18 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
19  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater  
20 than about 4, and wherein y is no greater than about 4.

1           66. The device of claim 56 wherein the compound consists  
2 essentially of  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  and the barrier layer consists essentially of  
3  $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_y$  and the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$ , wherein the  $(\text{CH}_3)_x\text{Si}_3\text{N}_{(4-x)}$  is present in  
4 the layer to a concentration of from greater than 0% to about 50%  
5 (mole percent), wherein x is greater than 0 and no greater than  
6 about 4, and wherein y is no greater than about 4.